



SPRING-FORD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

857 SOUTH LEWIS ROAD, ROYERSFORD, PA 19468

RESOLUTION 2015-25

SPRING-FORD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

2015-2016 Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. David R. Goodin
Superintendent

Dr. Allyn J. Roche
Assistant Superintendent

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WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania Department of Education (the "Department") has certified that, pursuant to Special Session Act 1 of 2006 (the "Taxpayer Relief Act" or Act 1), section 505(a)(4), that it will distribute funds during the 2015-2016 school year to the Spring-Ford Area School District (the "District") for property tax relief; and

WHEREAS, the Department's certification indicates it will give the District \$2,385,494.94 ("Certified Funds") comprised of \$2,000,770.02 as a property tax reduction (Gambling Funds) allocation under Act 1 § 505(b) and \$384,714.92 as earned income tax reimbursement (Philadelphia Sterling Tax Credit) under Act 1 § 324(3) with payment in August 2015 and in October 2015; and

WHEREAS, funds will be available during the 2015-2016 school year for real estate reduction as a result of undistributed funds from the property tax reduction funds received in 2014-2015 in the amount of \$1,745.00.

WHEREAS, total funds to be distributed during the 2015-2016 school year for real estate reduction will be \$2,387,229.94.

WHEREAS, the Montgomery County and Chester County assessor's office has certified, as required by Act 1 § 341(g)(3), the specific properties within the District that have been approved as Homesteads and Farmsteads within the District. Within that certification there are 12,472 approved Homesteads and 21 approved Farmsteads; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Act 1 § 341, the District is required to designate the Homestead exclusion and to designate the Farmstead exclusion no later than the last day prior to the beginning of the year for which the exclusions will apply, and for budget year 2015-2016 that date will be June 30, 2015; and

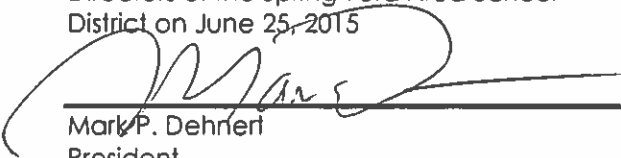
WHEREAS, the Homestead exclusion and the Farmstead exclusion set by the District are each fixed dollar amounts that may not exceed one-half the median assessment on approved Homestead properties within the District as of the date of the county's certification and shall only apply to calculation of District property taxes; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to 53 Pa.C.S.A. § 8585, the Farmstead exclusion may be equal to or less than the Homestead exclusion, but may not be greater than the Homestead exclusion; and

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of School Directors of the Spring-Ford Area School District (the "Board") hereby **RESOLVES** as follows:

1. On its own behalf and on behalf of the District's approved homestead and farmstead owners, the Board accepts all property tax allocations and earned income tax reimbursements offered to the District pursuant to Act 1 and declares it will not seek to reject any such funds as permitted under Act 1, Chapter 9.
2. In order to utilize, as directed in Act 1, the Certified Funds for property tax relief, the District resolves to set the maximum property tax reductions for its approved Homestead properties at \$191.31 and the maximum property tax reductions for its approved Farmstead properties shall be the same amount as the Homestead properties.
3. In the 2015-2016 school year, the real estate tax rate for the District is 26.061 mills.
4. Using the District's millage rate, converting the maximum tax reduction for Homesteads and Farmsteads yields a \$7,341 calculated Homestead exclusion and Farmstead exclusion.
5. Therefore, the Board hereby sets the exclusion from assessed value for school property tax purposes of each approved Homestead and Farmstead at \$7,341 which is less than half the median assessed value of approved Homestead properties within the District.
6. Where the assessor has approved a property as both a Homestead and Farmstead, the property will receive multiple exclusions, however, whether eligible for multiple exclusions or not, no property may exclude an amount from its assessment greater than the assessed value of the property.
7. The exclusions will apply to tax notices issued based on the initial tax duplicate used in issuing initial real estate tax notices for the school year, which will be issued on or promptly after July 1, and will not apply to interim real estate tax bills.
8. Pursuant to 53 Pa.C.S.A. § 8584, any property, which loses its approval as a Homestead or Farmstead after the beginning of the District's budget year, shall be taxed from that point at the full assessed value without exclusion, and shall receive an interim tax bill reflecting the balance due.
9. Any funds received from the Department by the District to fund exclusions where the funds are unused due to exclusions lost on or after July 1, 2015 shall be held by the District and added to the funds used for exclusions in the following budget year.

Resolution approved by the Board of School
Directors of the Spring-Ford Area School
District on June 25, 2015



Mark P. Dehrert
President

7 Yes / 1 No